

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

09/782,361

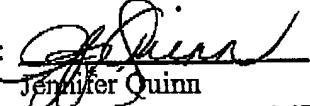
REMARKS

Further to the telephone interview with the Examiner of September 16, 2002, as conducted by Jennifer Quinn and Luc Bérubé, further amendments to the claims are herein provided. Favourable reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning the enclosed, please contact Jennifer Quinn at (613) 780-8678.

A separate sheet showing amendments made to the claims as set forth above is attached hereto in the attachment entitled "MARKED UP VERSION OF CLAIMS SHOWING CHANGES MADE."

Respectfully submitted,

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JQ:lf
Encl.

MARKED UP VERSION OF CLAIMS SHOWING CHANGES MADE

Claim 1 (Thrice Amended)

A primer-specific and mispair extension assay for determining genotype, said assay comprising:

- a) extending a nucleic acid sequence from a patient sample with *pfu* DNA polymerase, using a primer-specific for a genotype to be determined, and an incomplete set of dNTPs in the absence of ddNTPs, under suitable conditions for obtaining one or more extension products of the primer ~~such that one or more mispair at a given position relative to 3' end of the primer is created in the extension products that terminates the extension, wherein said one or more extension products are terminated in the presence of at least two mispairs within a 2 to 4 base pair range located downstream of the 3' end of the primer;~~ and wherein at least one of the primer or the dNTPs is labeled;
- b) characterizing the extension products; and
- c) analyzing the characterized extension products based on primer-specific pairing and non-specific pairing to determine the genotype of the nucleic acid sequence extended.

Claim 17 (Amended)

The primer-specific and mispair extension assay of claim 1 wherein ~~more than one mispair~~ said at least two mispairs are created immediately following one correct pairing at the position immediately adjacent to said 3' end of the primer.